Reorganizing Defence Structure

410. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reorganise the conventional structure of the defence services in India keeping in the technological changes, mainly in electronics;

(b) whether Government propose to re-structure our defence equipments in view of lessons learnt from the gulf-war; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to remove any apprehension in the minds of our friendly neighbouring countries from our increasing defence preparations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Restructuring of the Defence Services in view of the technological changes and other developments, like the Gulf War, is an on-going process, and is kept under constant review.

(c) Our friendly neighbouring countries have been assured, from time to time, that India is committed to peace and stability in the region and our defence preparedness is meant to safeguard our own territorial integrity.

Disposal of Surplus Defence Lands

411. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister of State of Defence has recently made a statement regarding disposal of surplus defence land;

(b) if so, the details of the surplus land available; and

(c) the details of the scheme for disposal, of such land?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The then Rajya Raksha Mantri, in his reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 237, had stated on 12.3.1992 that the Government have no plan to dis-invest 10% Defence land holdings in Cantonments. However, the Government were examining the possibility of generating additional resources by disposing of lands which may be surplus to Defence requirements.

In order to meet the shortfall in resources needed for modernisation and for capital works in the Armed Forces, an exercise has been undertaken to identify Defence lands rendered permanently surplus to Defence requitements. So fax 189 canupicug, grounds, 28 abandoned airfields and 791.372 acres of isolated pockets of land in Delhi have been earmarked for disposal.

There has been a continuing policy that lands rendered permanently surplus to Defence requirements will be disposed of by sale on realisation of market value to various agencies in the following order of preference:—

(1) Other Ministeries of Central Government
(2) State Governments
(3) Local Bodies
(4) Educational and Charitable Institutions
(5) Ex-Servicemen

In case non of the above groups respond to the offer, the surplus Defence lands are to be put to sale, by public auction.

Leasing of Idle Defence Units to Private Sector

412. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently allowed the Public Sector Undertakings producing Defence items and the Ordnance factories of the Defence Ministry to lease their idle units to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has been encouraging ordnance factories and defence public sector undertakings to put their idle machine capacities to job work from the civil sector.

Joint Production of Military Aircrafts in Collaboration with Dutch Company

413. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, (HAL) are negotiating with Fokker, the Dutch aircraft manufacturer, for the joint production of civilian aircraft in India;

(b) whether any other foreign manufacturers have also shown keen interest in this regard, both for civilian and military aircraft, for joint production with H. A. L.; and

(c) if so, what are the modalities settled/reasons for preference given to Dutch Company and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Other foreign manufacturers have also shown interest in co-production of civil aircraft with HAL.

(c) Discussions are still at a preliminary stage. Comparative evaluation of the options will be made at a later stage.

जबलपुर के वाहन-निर्माण एकक को बंद किया जाना

414. श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया: क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) जबलपुर स्थित वाहनों का निर्माण करने वाले एकक को बंद करने की प्रक्रिया कब तक आरम्भ हो जाने की सम्भावना है;

(ख) उक्त वाहन निर्माण एकक में कार्यरत कर्मचारियों को रोजगार उपलब्ध कराने के लिए किन-किन वैकल्पिक व्यवस्थाओं पर विचार किया जा रहा है;

(ग) इस एकक को बंद करने के बाद सेना को वाहनों की आपूर्ति कराने के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की जाएगी; और

(घ) क्या यह व्यवस्था ज्यादा किफायती होगी?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री शरद पवार): (क) जबलपुर स्थित वाहन निर्माणी यूनिट को बन्द करने के बारे में कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Setting up of new industrial projects

415. MD. SALIM:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI:
SHRI ASHIS SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some applications to set up new industrial projects with the capital of over Rs. 6000 crores, are pending with Government;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in clearing the applications; and

(c) whether these projects have got over 70000 employment potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Receipt of applications for setting up industrial projects and their disposal is a continuing process. All steps are taken for speedy disposal of applications within the stipulated time frame.